United Nations

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Secretariat

9 February 1999

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: **United Nations Staff Relief Committee for Victims of the Earthquake in Colombia**

1. On 25 January 1999, a deadly earthquake struck Colombia, leaving its coffee-growing cities of Armenia, Calarcá and Pereira in ruins and killing at least a thousand people, injuring over 6,000 and leaving many thousands homeless.

2. The lack of drinking water and hygiene facilities and the decomposition of bodies buried under the debris have created a serious public health problem. International relief has provided assistance to this catastrophe but there is still a tremendous need for help to bring back normal life to these cities.

3. With the approval of the Secretary-General and the support of the Staff Committee, the United Nations staff at Headquarters have formed the United Nations Staff Relief Committee for Victims of the Earthquake in Colombia to collect donations from staff at large to assist the victims of this devastating earthquake. The Committee is chaired by Rodrigo Segura-Morales (S-3020D, ext. 3-1145). The Treasurer is Ingeborg Möller-Rizo (SA-B30, voicemail 3-9000, ext. 7-0100). The Committee's focal points are as follows: Magdiela Garza (S-2935A, ext. 3-2334), Nubia Soto (DC1-0821, ext. 3-8561), Alba Castrillón (UNDP, DN-1540, ext. 4-6534), Maria Teresa Rosanio (UNICEF, T-2527, ext. 5-6572), Louis Garcia (UNDP, FF-524, ext. 4-5146) and Michael Negash (UNDP, FF-503, ext. 4-5172). The liaison member from the United Nations Staff Council is Ferdinand Lyn (S-525E, ext. 3-3802).

4. Starting Tuesday, 16 February 1999, contributions in cash will be collected by authorized staff members on behalf of the Committee. All proceeds will be donated through an appropriate relief agency.

5. Contributions may also be made by cheque payable to the United Nations Staff Relief Committee for Victims of the Earthquake in Colombia, addressed to the Treasurer, Ingeborg Möller-Rizo, Room SA-B30, or deposited at the United Nations Federal Credit Union, account No. 415430-1 (UNSRC/CCC Victims of the Earthquake in Colombia). Volunteers are requested to help in the collection of contributions for this worthy cause. If you can help, please contact the Chairperson.

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* Expiration date of the present information circular: 26 February 1999.

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